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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
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CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Weekly Bulletin

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JUNE 23, 1923

GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

SPECIAL NOTICE TO BULLETIN READERS.

The mailing list of the WEEKLY BULLETIN is being revised and persons who desire to have their names remain on the list to receive the publication should make such request immediately. Application blanks were enclosed with the issue of June 2d. If this blank form has been misplaced, a post card addressed to the secretary of the board, Sacramento, requesting that the reader's name be retained upon the mailing list, should be sent without delay.

New Policy in Wassermann Work.

It has become necessary for the State Board of Health to modify its policy regarding Wassermann tests. Hereafter, specimens for examination will be accepted only from patients who are unable to pay the fee required by private laboratories. Also, specimens from patients residing in a community that maintains a municipal laboratory approved by the State Board of Health will not be accepted for examination. Specimens from physicians who desire to check the work of other laboratories, by submitting duplicate specimens for examination, will be accepted, however.

Vaccinating Dogs in Modoc County.

Since the enactment of an ordinance in Modoc County which provides for the vaccination of dogs against rabies about 600 animals have been vaccinated. Dr. W. E. Coppedge, health officer of Modoc County, estimates that there are 1500 dogs in the county outside of Alturas, the only incorporated city within the county. The enforcement of the ordinance is progressing rapidly and it is believed that within a short time every dog in the county will be vaccinated, including the canine population of Alturas, where a similar ordinance is in effect.

California Will Entertain American Medical Association.

California will entertain the American Medical Association in San Francisco next week, when ten thousand physicians from all parts of the western hemisphere will assemble in annual convention. The people of California and of the United States owe much to this great body of medical men, which, year by year, is increasing and intensifying its activities in the promotion and maintenance of the public health. Every state board of health in the country and, without doubt, every municipal board of health can trace its origin to the zeal of doctors of medicine in their efforts to control communicable disease. The California State Board of Health had its beginning in the devotion of pioneer medical men to the public welfare. For many years prior to the organization of the board in 1870, Dr. Thomas M. Logan, who later became its first secretary, voluntarily and without compensation, investigated outbreaks of communicable disease that occurred within the state and he received assistance in compiling his epidemiological data from physicians throughout California who were designated as "correspondents" and who regularly reported cases of communicable disease that occurred in their respective communities.

Methods of organization and control of communicable disease, as well as scientific standards, have advanced considerably since those early days, but the high-minded devotion of the medical profession as a whole toward preserving "the sacredness of human life, which can not be impaired or wasted by neglect, any more than it can rightfully be taken by violence," is as steady and as determined today as it was at that time. The first secretary of the board, Dr. Thomas M. Logan, gives voice to this spirit in his report published in the first Biennial Report of the California State Board of Health, reproduced, in part, as follows:

Office State Board of Health,
Sacramento, Cal., November 1, 1871.
To His Excellency, H. H. Haight,
Governor of California:

Under a deep sense of the responsibilities involved in the comprehensive term of "State Medicine," to the ad-

ministration of which we have been appointed, and with an earnest desire to grapple successfully with the various difficulties surrounding the commencement of this new and important branch of the public service, we entered on our duties conformably to the law enacted on the eighteenth of March, eighteen hundred and seventy.

We rejoice, as citizens, that the advanced intelligence of the people, through their legislative representatives, have recognized the principle above all others by which society subsists, of the sacredness of human life, which can not be impaired or wasted by neglect, any more than it can rightfully be taken by violence; and we rejoice still more, as members of a philanthropic profession, that a needful provision has now been made, through the established channels which the progressive experience and the constantly increasing demands of civilization both require and render practicable, for securing the lives, the health and the social protection of the people, in accordance with the well-defined truths of hygienic science, as related to civil government.

We tender our congratulations as to the good health that has prevailed in the state since our inauguration, and of which the facts and figures herewith presented furnish substantial proof; thus affording us a just and safe standard for future sanitary comparisons.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF ACTION.

Before entering upon a new and untried field of operations, we have thought it proper to define the general principles by which we expect to be guided.

We believe that a reciprocity of action, subtle and recondite, is constantly taking place between the physical, moral and intellectual conditions of man; and that although these conditions are not capable of being explained demonstratively, still they may be so controlled by the aid of the powerful hand of the medical sciences, that the body, intellect and soul may be trained in a more perfect and well-balanced order than it is possible for them to be otherwise than by such agencies. We believe that no Board of Health, if it rightly performs its functions, can separately treat these three qualities of man—that they are indissoluble, and mutually act and react upon each other, and that it is only by the careful and comprehensive study of the laws of nature and the correlation

of forces operating throughout the physical world, that the highest department of the physician's art can be brought into operation, and applied to the advancement of the race.

Whether such measures will ever be the means of perfecting man's nature and condition, or not, there can be no doubt that a continual amelioration of his circumstances and development of his powers must result from the dissemination of the knowledge acquired by those who are arduously and incessantly laboring for humanity, not only by the most self-sacrificing devotion to their peculiar mission—healing the sick and searching out the occult causes of disease—but, also, by helping forward every worthy human interest, and promulgating every scientific discovery and beneficent invention.

For the prosecution, therefore, of the work before us, there can be no arrogance in claiming that none are better prepared than physicians, inasmuch as their preparation lies in the possession of the knowledge essentially necessary to the proper performance of their professional duties; and "that knowledge tells us, in no doubtful terms, that the fate of man is in his own hands. If this knowledge were exact, and our means of application adequate, we should see the human being in his highest state of perfection—in the harmonious proportion and complete balance of all his parts, as he came out of his Maker's hands, in whose Divine image, we are told, he was in the beginning made."*

But these glorious anticipations can never even approximate a realization, until Hygiene, the science of health, armed with the power of the state, comes to be fully understood, and its regenerating influence applied and appreciated; "until we explore and pursue to their very sources, those multitudinous agencies, whether physical, whether moral, whether born of earth, of air, or of society, which are either openly or insidiously degenerating the human race."†

In this spirit, and with these principles in view, yet by methods and with uses that have been devised for daily necessities in the care of public health, the organization and duties of the board have been directed. And no higher compliment can be paid to the enlightened spirit that is beginning to pervade the

public mind in regard to the State Board of Health, and the duties connected therewith, than the testimony which we now bear to the fact, that the people, as well as the profession, have spontaneously and heartily aided in giving effect to every measure proposed.

It is not for us to estimate the importance of the information secured by the methods employed; yet we can not withhold the opinion, that as a science, cultivated with a view to state purposes, it is almost, if not quite, an unexplored theatre of action. Having for its ends not only the conservation, but also the development of life—life, in all its evolutions and manifestations—in the energy of strength, in the power of intellect, in the efficiency of mind as well as body, we are not prepared to comprehend its immense proportions, nor even to approximate the brilliant results which we believe are to be attained through the practical application of its life and health-giving principles.



Branch Laboratories Discontinued.

The Los Angeles and Sacramento branches of the State Hygienic Laboratory have been discontinued by the State Board of Health and all of the work performed, heretofore, in the branches will now be done in the main laboratory at Berkeley. Health officers and physicians who may have on hand any containers addressed to either branch laboratory are requested to return them as soon as possible to the State Hygienic Laboratory, Berkeley, upon receipt of which, new containers bearing proper address, will be forwarded. All mail pertaining to biological examinations should hereafter be addressed to the main laboratory at Berkeley.



The runabout child for whom thoughtful home care, however simple and limited, is possible, does not seem to bear any direct relation to the wider public health problems. And yet the mothers of such children are dependent in the main for the protection of the health of their own children upon the protection and care of ALL children.—William Palmer Lucas, M.D., in "The Health of the Runabout Child."

*Practical Hygiene, by E. A. Parkes, M.D., F.R.S.

†Ordronaux.

MORBIDITY.***Diphtheria.**

127 cases have been reported as follows: Los Angeles County 15, Los Angeles 37, San Mateo 2, Orange County 2, Fresno 6, Mill Valley 1, Monterey County 4, Riverside 1, Turlock 2, Pasadena 1, Santa Monica 1, South San Francisco 1, Sacramento 2, Lompoc 1, San Fernando 1, Fresno County 2, Alhambra 2, Oroville 1, San Anselmo 1, Inglewood 1, Oroville 1, Yreka 1, San Jose 2, Hanford 1, Tulare County 1, Pomona 1, Alameda 2, Santa Barbara 2, Stockton 1, San Francisco 31.

Measles.

843 cases have been reported as follows: Piedmont 12, Alameda 466, Los Angeles 141, Los Angeles County 33, Pasadena 5, Fresno 11, San Mateo 18, Santa Clara County 17, Lodi 38, San Joaquin County 29, Tracy 8, Santa Barbara 92, Palo Alto 17, San Jose 39, Colfax 7, Sacramento 44, Orange County 8, Long Beach 6, Albany 3, Solano County 2, Santa Monica 1, Fresno County 1, Lompoc 5, Vacaville 3, Dinuba 4, Chino 1, Walnut Creek 3, Redondo Beach 1, Reedley 3, Yreka 1, Siskiyou County 1, Alhambra 2, San Gabriel 4, Whittier 3, Monrovia 1, El Segundo 4, Manteca 3, Stockton 1, Santa Rosa 1, Riverside 3, Red Bluff 2, Chico 4, Santa Ana 1, Burbank 2, Madera 3, Stanislaus County 4, Healdsburg 1, San Diego County 2, Redwood City 3, Colton 2, Merced County 2, Oroville 1, Benicia 2, Mendocino County 1, Sunnyvale 1, Butte County 1.

Whooping Cough.

108 cases have been reported as follows: San Francisco 10, Los Angeles County 4, San Joaquin County 8, San Jose 19, Fresno 14, Los Angeles 19, Palo Alto 1, Santa Clara County 2, Solano County 2, Pasadena 4, Sac-

ramento 4, Oroville 1, Lompoc 5, Fresno County 1, Piedmont 5, Mill Valley 3, Merced 3, Alameda 1, Lodi 1, Tracy 1.

Scarlet Fever.

121 cases have been reported as follows: San Francisco 16, Los Angeles County 15, Long Beach 5, Los Angeles 41, Palo Alto 1, Orange County 2, Fresno 4, Santa Clara County 1, Stanislaus County 1, San Diego County 1, Santa Monica 1, Sacramento 3, Benicia 1, Richmond 2, Placer County 1, Santa Ana 1, Contra Costa County 3, Fresno County 4, Chula Vista 1, Colusa County 2, Vallejo 1, San Bernardino County 3, Reedley 2, Tulare County 2, Pomona 3, Hawthorne 1, San Mateo County 1, Alameda 1, Stockton 1.

Smallpox.

23 cases have been reported as follows: Los Angeles 11, Santa Clara County 1, Stanislaus County 1, San Luis Obispo 1, San Bernardino County 2, Tulare County 1, Alhambra 3, Pomona 1, Los Angeles County 2.

Typhoid Fever.

8 cases have been reported as follows: Orange County 3, Fresno 2, San Joaquin County 2, Alhambra 1.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis.

2 cases have been reported as follows: Santa Clara County 1, Fresno County 1.

Poliomyelitis.

2 cases have been reported as follows: San Francisco 1, Los Angeles County 1.

Epidemic Jaundice.

2 cases have been reported from Los Angeles.

*From reports received on June 17th and 18th for the week ending June 16, 1923.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.

Disease	1923				1922			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending June 16 received by June 19	Week ending			Reports for week ending June 17 received by June 20
	May 26	June 2	June 9		May 27	June 3	June 10	
Anthrax.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebrospinal Meningitis.....	0	0	2	2	2	4	1	3
Chickenpox.....	249	184	218	140	165	190	169	119
Diphtheria.....	167	136	124	127	114	160	162	139
Dysentery (Bacillary).....	2	5	5	4	0	5	11	9
Epidemic Encephalitis.....	2	4	2	1	4	2	2	2
Epidemic Jaundice.....	0	0	0	2	0	8	0	0
Gonorrhoea.....	82	118	85	108	55	118	114	63
Influenza.....	32	24	20	12	24	17	13	3
Leprosy.....	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
Malaria.....	3	2	2	1	0	3	2	1
Measles.....	1084	992	1138	843	45	47	50	11
Mumps.....	35	30	32	23	53	68	50	39
Pneumonia.....	49	67	79	39	72	103	70	50
Poliomyelitis.....	1	4	0	2	0	2	0	2
Scarlet Fever.....	168	161	155	121	115	102	91	77
Smallpox.....	32	22	32	23	36	31	60	61
Syphilis.....	85	55	67	141	72	78	119	71
Tuberculosis.....	182	92	172	127	178	244	146	123
Typhoid Fever.....	10	6	25	8	11	15	29	18
Whooping Cough.....	167	141	148	108	81	103	99	104
Totals.....	2351	2043	2308	1832	1027	1293	1188	895